GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:43
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2007
PETROL PUMPS ON NATIONAL HIGHWAYS
Pateriya Smt. Neeta

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of petrol pumps opened on the National Highways in each State during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether the Government is aware that a number of petrol pumps are being illegally operated without proper clearance from the Ministry of Surface Transport (Road Transport) along the National Highways; (

(c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(d) the action taken against those petrol pumps?

Answer

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (b) to (d) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 43- for 1.3.2007 regarding Petrol Pumps on National Highways
The particulars of number of Retail Outlets opened on the National Highways in each state during the`last 3 years, yearwise, are given in the-Annex.
2. Setting of the norms for access to fuel stations, service stations and rest areas along the National Highways is within the purview of the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways (MoRTH). An inter-ministerial meeting was held in February 2003 between that Ministry and the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas in which the need for quickly sorting out the issues raised by the oil companies with regard to application of the (proposed) new norms and guidelines for the existing retail outlets and for new retail outlets was recognized and the relevant issues were discussed in detail. It was agreed at the meeting that the (proposed) new norms for setting u p of fuel stations and service stations would be applicable to all those retail outlets commissioned after the issue of the guidelines,while all the existing petrol pumps would follow the IRC 1983 norms and that for dispensation of case-to-case basis, proposals for relaxation would be examined. It was also agreed based on the discussions that the oil industry and MoRTH would meet and reconcile the differences with regard to the proposed norms shortly.
3. The new guidelines were issued by Ministry of Road Transport & Highways in September 2003. Subsequently, all the oil marketing companies in the public sector, viz., IOC, HPCL, BPCL and IBP applied to National Highways Authority of India for clearance of their sites. As on date, a total number of 1167 applications are pending clearance. MoRTH has cited deficiencies in the case of petrol pumps which had been commissioned before the issue of 2003 guidelines. Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas and the oil marketing companies have taken up these issues with MoRTH for early disposal of all such pending cases.